

WYCOMBE FAIL TO FIND MARK

Wanderers earn point in game of too many wasted opportunities

Sports Mail Special Report

IN a game full of missed chances, Wycombe Wanderers gained a worthy Isthmian League point when holding St. Albans to a goalless draw at Clarence Park today.

St. Albans City: Cavener; Colman; Payne; King, D'Arcy, Draper; Rolfe; Smith, Desmond, McDonnell, Dowler.

Wycombe Wanderers: Brown; Beck, Lewis; Thomas, Fisher, Gale; Worley, Ashby, James, Pullin, Horseman.

Referee: L. F. Syrett (Woking).

The game opened at a fast pace with St. Albans having the first escape. Pullin put Horseman away down the wing but his shot was saved by Cavener. Following up, James hit the bar and then the ball was cleared.

St. Albans came back and Smith shot narrowly wide and then Rolfe's cross was missed by both the forwards and defenders.

Desmond snapped up a loose ball but Fisher blocked his shot. From the corner, Desmond rocketed a header past Brown but Lewis cleared off the line.

A Rolfe shot was kept out by Lewis again then Brown saved the follow up shot. St. Albans were doing most of the attacking now, but they were still unable to score.

James got the ball into the net but a colleague was offside. Then Horseman and Pullin combined and from a Horseman centre Ashby headed into Cavener's arms.

JAMES GRIPPED

Both sides were making plenty of mistakes but St. Albans looked the more dangerous especially when using Rolfe and Desmond.

Rolfe beat Lewis and his shot went just over the bar.

With James in the grip of former English international skipper Alf D'Arcy, Wycombe's forwards had to rely on thrusts from Worley and Horseman but they were very infrequent.

Half-time: St. Albans 0, Wycombe 0.

St. Albans opened the second half strongly but gradually Wycombe took control. Horseman twice went close once hitting the bar with a tremendous shot.

Thomas fed Worley whose cross was headed down by James but goalkeeper Cavener punched it away. The pace had slowed down now, but with Wycombe making all the running.

Ashby set a good example for Wycombe by chasing everything. He often upset the St. Albans defence with straight-forward tactics. Hot appeals for a penalty against hands by Fisher were turned down before Wycombe attacked again.

SHOT OVER

McDonnell then hit a shot over the bar. John Beck playing an outstanding game then stopped a dangerous move.

Then McDonnell broke away and Brown after appearing to go the wrong way palmed his shot out for a fruitless corner.

Worley went down the wing after a fine pass by Ashby but his cross was cleared. St. Albans then had the best chance of the second half when Dowler was put clean through. But after fiddling about in front of goal he put in a weak shot which was blocked by Brown and then scrambled away.

RESULT:

ST. ALBAN'S CITY 0
WYCOMBE WANDERERS 0